

Cancer Disparities By Race in Virginia

Introduction

This fact sheet gives an overview of cancer disparities by race in Virginia. Due to limited numbers for other racial and ethnic groups, the focus is on cancer incidence, staging, mortality, risk factor, and screening statistics for African-American and White men and women.

All Sites Cancer

Overall African-Americans had a higher all sites cancer incidence rate than Whites due to an especially high rate in African-American males. African-American males had the highest rate of cancer incidence followed by White males. African-American females had the lowest rate of cancer incidence. African-Americans had a higher all sites cancer mortality rate than Whites. The cancer mortality rate was especially high in African-American males. African-American males and females had higher cancer mortality rates than White males and females, respectively. The percentage of cancers diagnosed local stage was lower in African-American women than in African-American males and White males and females. All sites cancer incidence, staging, and mortality data by race are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: All Sites Cancer Incidence, Staging, and Mortality Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³		
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI
All African-Americans	30,658	480.7	475.2 - 486.2	42%	13,702	222.8	219.0 - 226.5
African-American Men	16,431	626.9	616.8 - 637.1	46%	7,186	301.5	294.5 - 308.4
African-American Women	14,226	384.7	378.3 - 391.1	38%	6,516	177.4	173.1 - 181.7
All Whites	137,875	452.5	450.1 - 454.9	46%	54,281	177.3	175.8 - 178.7
White Men	71,770	527.9	523.9 - 531.9	46%	28,160	217.5	214.9 - 220.0
White Women	66,101	400.2	397.2 - 403.3	45%	26,121	150.7	148.9 - 152.6

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

Breast Cancer (Female)

The rate of breast cancer incidence was similar in African-American and White females but the mortality rate was over 50% higher in African-American women. The percentage of breast cancers diagnosed local stage was lower in African-American women than in White women. The prevalence of mammography screening did not differ significantly between African-American and White women. Breast cancer incidence, staging, mortality, and screening data by race are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Breast Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Screening Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Screening ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Mammography	95% CI
African-American Women	4,792	126.4	122.8 - 130.0	52%	1,293	33.8	32.0 - 35.7	77.5%	75.6% - 79.2%
White Women	20,481	124.2	122.5 - 126.0	62%	3,986	23.1	22.4 - 23.9	77.6%	75.7% - 79.4%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); screening prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Breast Cancer Screening = Percent of women age 40 years and older reporting having a mammogram in past two years. Based on 2006 and 2008 data (pooled). Percentages are population-weighted.

Cervical Cancer

Cervical cancer incidence rates did not differ significantly between African-American and White females but the mortality rate was 74% higher in African-American females. The percentage of cervical cancers diagnosed local stage was lower in African-American women than in White women. The prevalence of cervical cancer screening did not differ substantially between African-American and White women. Cervical cancer incidence, staging, mortality, and screening data by race are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Cervical Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Screening Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Screening ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Pap Test	95% CI
African-American Women	275	7.1	6.3 - 8.1	38%	126	3.3	2.8 - 3.9	86.8%	79.1% - 91.9%
White Women	966	6.4	6.0 - 6.8	48%	314	1.9	1.7 - 2.1	84.0%	81.4% - 86.2%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); screening prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Cervical Cancer Screening = Percentage of women age 18 years and older reporting having a Pap test in past three years. Women who had a hysterectomy are excluded. Based on 2006 and 2008 data (pooled). Percentages are population-weighted.

Colorectal Cancer

The rate of colorectal cancer incidence was about 27% higher in African-Americans compared to Whites. The colorectal cancer death rate was over 50% greater in African-Americans compared to Whites. African-American males were at especially high risk of developing and dying from colorectal cancer. The prevalence of colorectal cancer screening did not differ significantly between African-Americans and Whites. Colorectal cancer incidence, staging, mortality, and screening data are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Colorectal Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Screening Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Screening ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Colorectal Screening	95% CI
All African-Americans	3,403	55.0	53.2 - 56.9	37%	1,443	23.7	22.5 - 25.0	66.4%	61.1% - 71.3%
African-American Men	1,669	65.5	62.2 - 68.9	37%	722	29.8	27.6 - 32.0	63.2%	54.6% - 71.0%
African-American Women	1,734	48.0	45.8 - 50.3	38%	721	19.9	18.5 - 21.4	68.2%	61.6% - 74.2%
All Whites	13,080	43.3	42.5 - 44.0	41%	4,767	15.6	15.2 - 16.1	63.4%	61.5% - 65.3%
White Men	6,699	50.0	48.8 - 51.3	41%	2,403	18.6	17.8 - 19.3	64.5%	61.5% - 67.4%
White Women	6,379	37.7	36.8 - 38.7	41%	2,364	13.4	12.9 - 13.9	62.5%	59.9% - 65.0%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); screening prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Colorectal cancer screening = Percentage of adults 50 and older who had either a sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy within the past 5 years and/or a home blood stool test within the past year. Based on 2006 and 2008 data (pooled). Percentages are population-weighted.

Lung and Bronchus Cancer

African-American and White males had higher rates of lung cancer than African-American and White females. African-American and White males also had higher lung cancer death rates than African-American and White females. Lung cancer incidence and mortality rates were especially high in African-American males. The percentage of lung cancers diagnosed local stage was lowest in African-American males and highest in White females. Smoking appeared to be more prevalent among African-American males than among White males or African-American or White females. Lung and bronchus cancer incidence, staging, mortality, and risk factor data are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Lung and Bronchus Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Risk Factor Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Risk Factor ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Current Smoking	95% CI
All African-Americans	4,378	71.7	69.6 - 73.9	14%	3,557	57.7	55.8 - 59.6	19.9%	16.6% - 23.7%
African-American Men	2,593	105.3	101.1 - 109.7	13%	2,159	88.7	84.9 - 92.4	23.2%	17.2% - 30.6%
African-American Women	1,785	49.9	47.6 - 52.3	16%	1,398	38.3	36.3 - 40.3	17.4%	14.2% - 21.0%
All Whites	20,816	68.9	68.0 - 69.9	19%	16,270	53.0	52.2 - 53.8	17.8%	16.7% - 18.9%
White Men	11,431	86.5	84.9 - 88.1	17%	9,053	68.2	66.8 - 69.6	19.0%	17.3% - 20.9%
White Women	9,385	56.1	55.0 - 57.3	21%	7,217	41.9	40.9 - 42.8	16.6%	15.4% - 17.9%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); risk factor prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Smoking=Percentage of adults who report currently smoking and have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime. Based on 2007-2009 data (pooled). Percentages are population-weighted.

Melanoma

The incidence rate of melanoma was over twenty times greater in Whites compared to African-Americans, and was higher in White males compared to White females. The melanoma mortality rate was about seven times higher in Whites compared to African-Americans, and was more than double in White males compared to White females. About ¾ of melanomas in Whites were diagnosed local stage compared to fewer than half in African-Americans. Sunburn in the previous twelve months was much more prevalent in Whites compared to African-Americans, and was more prevalent in White males compared to White females. Melanoma incidence, staging, mortality, and risk factor data are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Melanoma Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Risk Factor Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Risk Factor ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Sunburn	95% CI
All African-Americans	73	1.2	0.9 - 1.5	45%	32	0.5	0.3 - 0.7	4.5%	2.6% - 7.6%
African-American Men	26	1.0	0.6 - 1.5	42%	15	~	~	6.2%	2.7% - 13.7%
African-American Women	47	1.3	0.9 - 1.7	47%	17	~	~	3.2%	1.8% - 5.7%
All Whites	7,356	24.4	23.8 - 25.0	74%	1,109	3.6	3.4 - 3.8	37.3%	35.0% - 39.7%
White Men	4,289	31.3	30.4 - 32.3	72%	704	5.2	4.8 - 5.6	44.4%	40.3% - 48.5%
White Women	3,067	19.5	18.8 - 20.2	77%	405	2.4	2.2 - 2.6	30.8%	28.4% - 33.4%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); risk factor prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

~ Mortality rate is not reported if 25 or fewer cases.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Sunburn = Percentage of adults age 18 years and older reporting having a sunburn in the last 12 months. Based on 2007 data. Percentages are population-weighted.

Oral Cavity Cancer

The incidence rate of oral cancer did not differ significantly between African-Americans and Whites. The mortality rate was higher in African-Americans compared to Whites due to an especially high death rate in African-American males. The mortality rate in African-American males was nearly 70% higher than that in White males. Both African-American and White males were much more likely to be diagnosed with and die from oral cancer than African-American and White females. The percentage of oral cancers diagnosed local stage was greater in Whites compared to African-Americans, for African-American females compared to African-American males, and for White females compared to White males. Oral cancer screening was much more as prevalent in Whites (46.7%) compared to African-Americans (27.8%). Smoking appeared to be more prevalent among African-American males than among White males or African-American or White females. Smokeless tobacco use was more prevalent among White males compared to African-American males or females or White females. Oral cavity cancer incidence, staging, mortality, risk factor, and screening data are shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Oral Cavity Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, Risk Factor, and Screening Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Risk Factor and Screening ⁴			
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence Smokeless Tobacco	95% CI	Prevalence Oral Cancer Check	95% CI
All African-Americans	668	9.8	9.1 - 10.6	22%	205	3.1	2.7 - 3.6	2.7%	0.7% - 10.0%	27.8%	23.5% - 32.6%
African-American Men	499	16.9	15.4 - 18.5	19%	152	5.6	4.7 - 6.4	5.4%	1.2% - 22.0%	34.4%	26.7% - 43.1%
African-American Women	169	4.5	3.8 - 5.2	29%	53	1.4	1.0 - 1.8	0.7%	0.3% - 1.3%	24.3%	19.5% - 29.7%
All Whites	3,293	10.6	10.2 - 11.0	34%	647	2.1	1.9 - 2.3	4.1%	3.6% - 4.8%	46.7%	44.8% - 48.5%
White Men	2,296	15.9	15.2 - 16.6	30%	443	3.3	3.0 - 3.6	7.9%	6.7% - 9.2%	44.6%	41.7% - 47.6%
White Women	997	6.0	5.7 - 6.4	44%	204	1.2	1.0 - 1.3	0.6%	0.4% - 0.9%	48.5%	46.1% - 50.8%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); risk factor and screening prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+.

Smokeless Tobacco Use = Percentage of adults age 18+ years reporting current use of smokeless tobacco. Based on 2005 and 2009 (combined) data. Percentages are population-weighted.

Oral Cancer Screening = Percentage of adults age 40+ years reporting an oral cancer check by a doctor/dentist within the past 12 months. Based on 2006 and 2009 (combined) data. Percentages are population-weighted.

Ovarian Cancer

White females were both more likely to be diagnosed with and to die from ovarian cancer compared to African-American females. The percentage of ovarian cancers diagnosed local stage was similarly low for both African-American and White females. Ovarian cancer incidence, staging, and mortality data by race are shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Ovarian Cancer Incidence, Staging, and Mortality Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³		
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI
African-American Women	328	8.8	7.9 - 9.8	13%	247	6.8	5.9 - 7.6
White Women	2,081	12.5	12.0 - 13.1	14%	1,551	9.0	8.5 - 9.4

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population..

Prostate Cancer

African-American males were over 65% more likely to be diagnosed with, and about 2.5 times more likely to die from, prostate cancer compared to White males. The percentage of prostate cancers diagnosed local stage and the prevalence of PSA screening were fairly similar for African-American and White males. Prostate cancer incidence, staging, mortality, and screening data by race are shown in Table 9.

Table 9: Prostate Cancer Incidence, Staging, Mortality, and Screening Data By Race

Race	Incidence ¹			Staging ²	Mortality ³			Screening ⁴	
	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Percent Local Stage	Count	Rate per 100,00	95% CI	Prevalence PSA Test	95% CI
African-American Men	6,350	239.2	233.1 - 245.4	76%	1,032	54.4	51.1 - 57.7	60.6%	53.0% - 67.8%
White Men	20,279	144.1	142.0 - 146.1	78%	2,410	21.7	20.8 - 22.5	56.8%	53.9% - 59.6%

Sources: Incidence and percent local staging (VA Cancer Registry); mortality (VDH Division of Health Statistics); screening prevalence (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

¹ Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

² Based on combined 2004-2008 data. Percent of Local Stage cancers reported using the Summary Staging System.

³ Based on combined 2005-2009 data. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

⁴ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national telephone survey of adults 18+. Prostate Cancer Screening = Percentage of men age 40 years and older reporting having a PSA test in past two years. Based on data from 2006 and 2008 (pooled). Percentages are population-weighted.